



**For Immediate Release**

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**Senator Gregg: Americans Can't Afford This Budget**

Senator Judd Gregg, ranking member of the Senate Budget Committee, today reacted to the U.S. Senate's final passage of the fiscal year 2009 budget resolution conference report.

"For the second year in a row, the Democratic majority has crafted and passed a tax-and-spend budget – one that most Americans can't afford as they struggle with a slowing economy and rising food and fuel costs," said Senator Gregg.

"The Democratic budget passed today in the Senate includes the largest tax increase in history, passes the \$1 trillion mark in annual discretionary spending, and continues to ignore the pressing issue of \$66 trillion in unfunded entitlement obligations we will otherwise pass on to our children.

"For average Americans, this budget means that 43 million families with children will owe \$2,300 more in taxes; 18 million seniors will owe \$2,200 more; 27 million small business-owners will owe \$4,100 more; and 7.8 million low-income workers will be added back to the tax rolls.

"The Democrats' big-government budget is clearly a disappointment, and shows a lack of awareness of the financial challenges already squeezing American families and businesses. I will continue to work to lessen the tax burden on hard-working taxpayers, address our long-term fiscal obligations and better position the economy to rebound."